

What is claimed is:

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1. ~~A touch-operating input device comprising a display device for displaying operation function items and a touch panel which is provided separately from the display device and which is for selecting the function items by touch operation, wherein a touch-operation guide shape is formed on the touch-operation face of said touch panel.~~

2. The touch-operating input device according to claim 1, wherein the touch-operation guide shape is at least one of a convex shape and a concave shape.

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3. ~~The touch-operating input device according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the convex shape and the concave shape is designed to continuously extend in a predetermined direction on the touch-operation face of said touch panel.~~

4. The touch-operating input device according to claim 3, wherein the touch-operation guide shape comprises a plurality of said continuously extending shapes which are arranged at predetermined intervals.

5. The touch-operating input device according to claim 4, wherein the touch-operation guide shape comprises said plural continuously extending shapes and said plural continuously extending shapes that intersect with one another.

6. The touch-operating input device according to claim 5,

wherein said plural continuously extending shapes are discontinuous at the intersecting points therebetween.

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7. ~~The touch-operating input device according to claim 1,~~  
wherein plural continuously extending shapes extend from one end side to another end side on the touch-operation face.

8. The touch-operating input device according to claim 2, wherein a plurality of at least one of the convex shape and the concave shape are arranged in a predetermined direction on the touch-operation face.

9. ~~The touch-operation input device according to claim 8,~~  
wherein plural pairs of the at least one of the convex shape and the concave shape arranged in the predetermined direction are arranged in a direction intersecting the predetermined direction.

10. The touch-operation input device according to claim 2, wherein at least one of the convex shape and the concave shape is disposed at at least one position serving as a reference for determining a position on the touch-operation face.

11. The touch-operation input device according to claim 2, wherein the concave shape is a protruding shape and the concave shape is a recessed shape.

12. The touch-operation input device according to claim 1, wherein the touch-operation guide shape is designed by dividing the touch-operation face into plural sub-faces so that the respective sub-faces are shaped to be discontinuous at boundary

positions between neighboring sub-faces.

13. The touch-operation input device according to claim 12, wherein each of the plural sub-faces is slanted at a different angle from the neighboring sub-faces.

14. The touch-operation input device according to claim 12, wherein each of the plural sub-faces is set to be different in height from the neighboring sub-faces.

15. The touch-operation input device according to claim 1, further comprising control means for controlling said display device to display an image representing the touch-operation guide shape, the image being overlapped with the operation function items.

16. A display system comprising a display device for displaying the operation function items and the touch-operation input device as claimed in claim 1.

17. The display system as claimed in claim 16, wherein said display device displays an image representing the touch-operation face, the image being overlapped with the operation function items.

18. The display system according to claim 17, wherein a relative position in the image and a relative position on the touch-operation face correspond with each other.

19. A touch-operation assisting method for a touch-operating input device comprising a display device for displaying operation function items and a touch panel which is provided

separately from said display device and which is for selecting the function items by touch operation, wherein a touch-operation guide shape is provided on a touch-operation face of said touch panel.

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20. ~~The touch-operation assisting method according to claim 19, wherein an image representing the touch-operation face is displayed on said display device, the image being overlapped with the operation function items.~~

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